The Central Government administrative offices observe 17 holidays in a year as per the prescribed procedure. During the year 2003, there are 13 effective holidays after excluding holidays falling on Saturdays and Sundays.

(c) The holidays policy has been reviewed over the years and the number of holidays have been reduced progressively from 23 in 1960 to the existing level on an average 13-14 effective holidays every year after excluding holidays falling on Saturdays and Sundays. The number of bank holidays notified by the respective State Governments/Union Territories under the Negotiable Instrument Act have also been reduced since 2002-2003 to the maximum holidays of 15 days in a year as compared to holidays varying from 17 to 30 days in a year in different States/Union Territories. The holiday policy of the Central Government is reviewed from time to time.

Study of workload rationalisation in Government Offices

4903. SHRI BALBIR K. PUNJ: Will the Minister of PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the Planned and Non-planned expenditure figures in Central Government Ministries (including its Undertakings) for financial Year 2001-2002;

(b) whether there has been any effort by Government for downsizing of bureaucracy (Group A); and

(c) whether Government has carried out any study for workload rationalization in Government offices?

THE MINISIER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) The total Plan and Non-plan expenditure of the Central Government Ministries (including its Undertakings) in the Financial Year 2001-2002 was Rs.1,01,193.65 crores and Rs.2,61,259.15 crores respectively.

(b) The details of efforts made by the Government in rightsizing its workforce, including Group 'A' posts, are as under:—

(i) As a result of 10% across-the-board cut imposed with reference to the sanctioned strength as on 1.1.1992, so far 1.73 lakh posts have been abolished so far in various Departments;

(ii) Out of about 42,000 posts identified by the Expenditure Reforms Commission for abolition in 36 Ministries/Departments as reviewed by the Commission, 13,000 posts have been abolished so far; and

(iii) Instructions have been issued on 16.5.2001 to all the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India to restrict the recruitment to one-third of the direct recruitment vacancies occurring in each year, subject to a further ceiling that this does not exceed 1% of the total sanctioned strength of Ministries/Departments.

(c) The Staff Inspection Unit (SIU) under the Department of Expenditure conducts studies for measurement of workload with the object of securing economy in expenditure by limiting the manpower to what is actually needed to carry out the allocated functions, and also to evolve performance standards and work norms in the Government offices. It is a continuous process. The SIU conducted 13 such studies in the year 2001-2002.

Setting up power plants in Himachal Pradesh

4904. SHRI ANIL SHARMA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up power plants in Himachal Pradesh during the Tenth Plan period;

(b) if so, location-wise details thereof along with the funds allocated for the same; and

(c) the necessary steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA) : (a) and (b) The details of Power Projects proposed to be set up in Himachal Pradesh during Tenth Plan in the Central Sector are given below:

Name of Project	Installed Capacity (MW)	Commis--sioning Schedule	10th Plan Outlay (Rs. in Crores)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
Central Sector				
Naphtha Jhakri HEP	1500MW	2003-04	2068	Under construction
Chamera-II	300 MW	2003-04	631.71	Under construction
Rampur	400 MW	10th Plan	1186	Implementation Agreement to be signed between Government of India and Government of Himachal Pradesh.